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LETTER DATED 4 APRIL 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you as follows:

On 8 March 1991 a motorcycle belonging to the United States armed forces approached the nearest point on the bridge leading to the town of Suq al-Shuyukh, governorate of Dhi Qar, driven by an American accompanied by a woman journalist named Patrick Owens of the English network TVAM. She was carrying a press pass issued by the Iraqi Ministry of Culture and Information and requested permission to enter in order to photograph the area of Suq al-Shuyukh and the Iraqi units, which was denied. The journalist asked to return at 10 a.m. on the following day in order to take photographs after obtaining authorization. When a check was made, it became clear that the Ministry of Culture and Information had not granted this journalist a press pass for entry into Iraq and had not authorized her to take photographs.

In bringing to the attention of the Secretary-General, the Security Council and all the countries of the world this example of the attempts on the part of the United States of America to violate the sovereignty of Iraq, we hope that the international community will realize the lengths to which the American administration has gone in using every means to interfere in Iraq's domestic affairs.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for this letter to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Abdul Amir AL-ANBARI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative